

The subject matter claimed is:

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1. A composition comprising a halogen-containing polymer, a free mercaptan and between about 0.005 and 0.5 %, based on the weight of the polymer, of at least one stabilizer selected from the group consisting of a metal-based stabilizer and a Lewis acid.

10 2. The composition of claim 1 wherein the amount is from about 0.01 to about 0.4%.

3. The composition of claim 1 wherein the amount is from about 0.03 to about 0.1%.

15 4. The composition of claim 1 wherein the Lewis acid is zinc chloride.

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5. The composition of claim 1 wherein the stabilizer is a zinc carboxylate.

20 6. The composition of claim 1 wherein the halogen-containing polymer is a semi-rigid or flexible PVC.

25 7. The composition of claim 1 wherein the halogen-containing polymer is a rigid PVC.

8. The composition of claim 6 wherein the mercaptan is 2-mercaptoethyltallate.

30 9. The composition of claim 7 wherein the free mercaptan is thioglycolic acid.

35 10. A composition for stabilizing a halogen-containing polymer consisting essentially of from about 10 % to about 99% by weight of a free mercaptan and at least one stabilizer selected from the group consisting of a metal-based stabilizer and a Lewis acid as the remainder.

